

Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Agenda for January 25th, 2024

Meet by Google Meets at 10:30 AM

Joint Meeting Agenda

Board Members: Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, President; Dr. Christine Calvert, Vice President; Ms. Lynne Chaput; Ms. Patricia Quimby; Dr. Peter Radue, Dr. Heidi Schmechel and Dr. James Reed.

Open Meeting Agenda

Call Meeting to Order:

Dr. Callahan called the meeting to order at 10:41.

Approval of the Minutes of the December 7th, 2023 Board Meeting.

In a motion by Dr. Reed, and seconded by Dr. Radue, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the December 7th 2023 meeting.

Veterinary License Applications Approvals:

Dr. Gerald Tishman has withdrawn his application after receiving the board request.

In a motion by Dr. Calvert, and seconded by Dr. Reed, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following license applications* and ratify the applications that were approved by designated authority**:

Applications for Board review:

- Dr. Roopali Yadav

Applications approved by Designated Authority (36)**

Veterinarian:

- K. Conniff-Rafalko
- J. Schwartz
- L. Chandra
- A. Amini
- R. Shoemaker
- A. Kirmayer
- H. Braverman
- G. Rivest
- P. Piu
- J. Miller
- S. Church
- S. Beckford
- M. Griffin
- E. King
- L. Parker

- B. Rogers
- V. McMillen
- C. Jost
- R. Covey
- K. Fitzgerald
- J. Harris
- C. Lewis
- L. Miller
- P. Burchfiel
- S. Lewis
- J. Caldwell
- A. Silverstone
- A. Velting
- T. Brick
- S. Wood
- D. Irvin
- K. Day
- N. Tocco
- C. Rivera
- S. Gaddam
- M. Harvey

Veterinary Technicians (5)**

- A. Citlally
- B. McDole
- K. Huynh
- C. Osborne
- J. Meng

Veterinary Hospitals (1)**

- Sunny Side Rep Innov.

Denied Veterinary Technician Applications for Review:

- Abigail Baker -
 - Not practicing for the continuous past 5 years.
- Samantha Carper
 - Not practicing for the continuous past years and had started a business with my husband.
 - Board would like to revisit these decisions and would like to update the regulations regarding veterinary technicians qualifications in particular the Carper application.
 - 15.14.13.06 Consider extending VTNE to 7 years to match the NAVLE.
 - Consider 15.14.13.11(2) to allow for 3 of the last 5 years.
 - Nathan to talk to Dr. Handel about the Carper application.
 - Get an opinion from Dr. Handel and start the discussion.

Sanitation Reports:

Inspector's Ellen James and Pegeen Morgan provided a summary of the inspection reports.

In a motion by Dr. Reed, and seconded by Dr. Callahan, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Sanitation Reports.

CE Approval Requests:

The Board reviewed information for the following CE cited in 15.14.04.09D(2) Training Requirements as an approved chemical capture course under “Safe Capture International”. The company was purchased by the San Diego Zoo and now goes by San Diego Zoo Safe Capture. In a motion by Ms. Quimby, and seconded by Dr. Reed, the Board voted unanimously to amend 15.14.04.09D(2) to update the name of the course to “San Diego Zoo Safe Capture”.

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, and seconded by Dr. Reed, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following Continuing Education Requests for use:

Request #	Requester	CE Title	Sponsoring Organization	# of CE's	Clinical / Non-Clinical	CDS Request	Approval	CDS Approval
744	Brittany Bell	Radiation Therapy: What Can It Do?	Veterinary Neurology of the Chesapeake	1	Clinical	No	Yes	N/A
745	Stella Spears	PRIM&R Annual Conference 2023	PRIM&R / SBER	36	Non-Clinical	No	Approved for 12 Hours Non-Clinical can't use more than that.	N/A
746	Rich Burgess	IMEX Advanced External Fixation	IMEX	14	Clinical	No	Yes	N/A

Final Orders since December 7th, 2023 meeting.

- Docket No. 23-09: Robert & Michelle Tuttle / Dr. Eric Alexander, Alexander Animal Hospital (Atty: Joseph Damiano)
 - Professional Judgment and Practice
- Docket No. 23-76: Tracey Pritchette / Dr. Suzanne Robbins(RV), Animal Medical Center of Burtonsville
 - Professional Judgment, Record Keeping, Client Consent
- Docket No. 23-78: Krista Michael (Blaize) / Dr. Robert Tishman, Pickles Animal Hospital DBA Light Street Animal Hospital (Atty: Mairi Pat Maguire)
 - Professional Judgment

- Docket No. 23-79: Krista Michael (Brixton) / Dr. Robert Tishman, Pickles Animal Hospital DBA Light Street Animal Hospital (Atty: Mairi Pat Maguire)
 - Record Keeping
- Docket No. 23-120B: SBVME / LR Sommer Nelson, NVA Animal Dental Center LLC (Towson)
 - Hospital Licensing
- Docket No. 24-19: SBVME / Pathway Vet Alliance (DBA Thrive Pet Healthcare)
 - Hospital Licensing
- Docket No. 24-43: SBVME / Dr. Christine Gernhart, Timonium Animal Hospital
 - Expired medications.

Miscellaneous:

- **Inquiry regarding Cat Declaw Exemption - Dr. Wozniak**
 - Dr. Wozniak asked if the Board would consider providing an exemption to a cat who's owner was requesting a referral for a Declaw procedure due to being unable to handle the cat and having to repeatedly sedate for veterinary care.
 - Statute does not allow for this, we do not provide exemptions for this. This would be specifically prohibited by the Bill for "Convenience of handling".
 - They may be able to consider referring to a veterinarian in another jurisdiction.

- **Inquiry regarding Medication Administration by Pet Sitter**
 - A constituent submitted an inquiry regarding the administration of medications to an owned animal by a pet sitter. A draft response had been provided by Cynthia Spirt and was reviewed by the Board and approved for use. The response explained that the Pet Sitter would be able to administer the medications that were prescribed by a veterinarian as the agent of the owner. There were further inquiries regarding emergencies and making decisions in the absence of being able to contact the owner. These should be addressed in their service agreement with the owner and reviewed by their own private counsel. A veterinarian is not required to accept this and may choose their patients and does not have to accept financial liability for the patients care.

- AEH Request Meeting - Will provide questions in advance. Dr. Jennifer Goesling
 - They will be added to the agenda for the April board meeting and submit questions and topics to discuss so that the Board can be prepared for productive discussion.

- **FY2024 Legislation**
 - **SB0054/HB0175 - Occupational Licensing and Certification - Criminal History Prohibited Disclosures and Predetermination Review Process**
 - Repeat bill from last several years.
 - Senate Finance Committee 2/6/2024 at 1P.M.
 - House Hearing 2/7/2024 at 1P.M.
 - **SB0157 - Animal Abandonment Penalties and Dog Microchips**

- New Bill. No real impact on Vet Board. Requires Veterinarian to Administer microchips before adoption or sale of dogs. Significant impact on shelters and breeders.
- Senate Hearing 1/24/2024 at 2:30P.M.
- **HB0057/SB0235 - PDMP**
 - Introduced again from last year regarding PDMP reporting of controlled substances by veterinarians who dispense.
 - House Hearing 1/31/2024 at 1:00P.M.
 - Senate Hearing 1/24/2024 at 1:30P.M.
- **HB0085 - Spay and Neuter Fee**
 - Attempting to increase the Spay and Neuter program fee charged to Pet Food Manufacturers. Some minor changes to services it may cover.
 - House Hearing 2/7/2024 at 2:30P.M.
- **HB0171 - Veterinary Pharmacist on Pharmacy Board**
 - House Hearing scheduled for 2/1/2024 has been canceled.
- **HB0647 - Pet Insurance - Regulation**
 - First Reading
- A bill to require all state units to create a catalog of each type and purpose of license or permit issued and various information regarding its processing.
- A bill to require fees and taxes to be approved by the general assembly.

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, and seconded by Dr. Reed, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session to perform administrative functions outside the scope of the Open Meetings Act, in accordance with § 3-103(a)(1)(i) of the General Provisions Article. The administrative functions to be performed include discussion of the specific matters identified on the Board Agenda. In the alternative, I move to close the meeting pursuant to the following Section 3-305(b):

(7) To obtain advice of counsel;

(8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation;

(12) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct;” and

(13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.